National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

# Seasonal pattern of hospitalization from acute respiratory infections in Yaounde, Cameroon

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**Abstract:**

Acute respiratory infections (ARIs) are among the leading causes of childhood morbidity and mortality in Africa. The effects of climatic factors on occurrence of ARIs in the tropics are not clear. During the years 2006-07, we reviewed the clinical registers of the Chantal Biya Foundation (CBF), Yaounde, Cameroon, paediatric hospital to investigate the association between climatic factors and ARIs in children. Our findings show that rain, high relative humidity and low temperatures are directly associated with an increase in the frequency of hospitalization from ARIs. Given the high frequency of hospitalization from ARIs we suggest that influenza vaccination campaigns should be implemented taking into account the seasonality in Cameroon.

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## Resource Description

**Exposure :**

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Meteorological Factors, Precipitation, Temperature

**Geographic Feature:**

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

**Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Africa

**African Region/Country:** African Country

**Other African Country:** Cameroon

**Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Injury, Respiratory Effect

**Respiratory Effect:** Bronchitis/Pneumonia, Bronchitis/Pneumonia, Other Respiratory Effect

**Respiratory Condition (other) :** hospitalization for (LRTI; bronchitis, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, pleuritis) or upper RTI (URTI; rhinitis, pharingitis, tracheitis)

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** ☑

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children

**Resource Type:** ☑

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

**Timescale:** ☑

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified